

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: University of Nevada, Reno – Effie Mona Mack Social Sciences Building Renaming Request

MEETING DATE: December 2 & 3, 2021

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The Effie Mona Mack Social Sciences building at the University of Nevada, Reno was named by approval of the Board of Regents at their October 8-9, 1966 meeting. The naming was a recommendation from the Regent’s Building Committee. The use of the building has changed over recent years and no longer contains the social sciences programs. As such, the University is requesting the building name be shortened to ‘Effie Mona Mack.’ This request is consistent with the policy in the Procedures and Guidelines Manual Chapter 1, Campus Development, Section 2, Property, subsection 2 – Naming of Campus Buildings, which states: “...Names for new or unnamed buildings, building additions, or for renaming existing buildings are subject to approval by the NSHE Board of Regents...”

Effie Mona Mack was a graduate of Reno High School and the University of Nevada, Reno where she received her B.A in History in 1909 and honorary Doctor of Literature in 1948. She was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and was inducted into Sigma Kappa Alpha, a history honor society. She earned her doctorate from the University of California (1930) and spent her career teaching at Reno area public schools (1914-1954) and then as part of the first faculty at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas where she taught history and political science for two years. She published books and articles on Nevada history, was active with numerous local organizations, ran a Reno business for nearly 20 years, and coached the Reno High School girls’ basketball team to the state championships. She was passionate about preserving Nevada’s heritage and passed away in 1969 at the age of 80.

The naming of the Effie Mona Mack Social Sciences building was not the result of a direct donation and there are no agreements to prevent the change in naming or purpose of the building.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

University of Nevada, Reno President Brian Sandoval requests Board of Regents approval to rename the existing Effie Mona Mack Social Sciences Building to the Effie Mona Mack Building.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

The use of the building has recently changed and the University is requesting this renaming to avoid confusion as social science programs are no longer housed in that building.

5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)**
- Success (Increase student success)**
- Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)**

- Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)
- Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

N/A

6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- This request will assist in reducing confusion for students and other community members looking for the physical location of the social science programs.

7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- None have been raised

8. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

-Leave existing name in place

9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE:

10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____

Amends Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____

Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____

Other: ___ Chapter 1, Section 2.2 – Naming of Campus Buildings

Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No _____

Explain: No material costs are anticipated related to updating campus directories or signage.
